

ALEXANDRIA TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
June 10, 2020

This meeting was advertised in The Hunterdon Democrat notice posted in the Alexandria Township Municipal Offices and the Alexandria Township Website (www.alexandrianj.gov) as required by the Open Public Meetings Act. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et, seq., and in consideration of Executive Order No. 103, issued by Governor Murphy on March 9 ,2020, declaring a State of Emergency and a Public Health Emergency in the State of New Jersey, the State of New Jersey does hereby notify the public that to protect the health, safety and welfare of our citizens while ensuring the continued functioning of government, the meeting of the Mayor and the Township Committee scheduled June 10, 2020 will be held electronically only. Members of the public who wish to participate in the meeting may do so by calling 1-978-990-5000 and followed by meeting number Access Code: 333891 at 7:35 PM. Individuals calling into this number will be able to fully participate in the meeting, including providing public comment. A non-public dial in number will be used if executive session is required.

Meeting Called to order at 7:36 PM.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Mayor Plumer, Committeeman Pfefferle, Committeeman Kiernan, Twp. Atty. Dragan

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT:

OEM Harding, DPW Foreman Heiser

FLAG SALUTE:

Mayor Plumer led the flag salute.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Covid 19 Update

Mayor Plumer noted that there has been a lot of contradictions in the Governor's Executive Orders that have been coming out making it difficult for Townships to make sure they are adhering to the guidelines properly. The weekly County conference calls have slowed and will be on a on needed basis. There are no updates for the Township at this time pertaining to Covid-19. The Township park will open fully on June 22nd except

for the playground. Executive Order 153 specifically states that playgrounds are to remain closed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Resolution 2020-074 2020 Joint Material Contract

Comm. Kiernan made a motion, seconded by Comm. Pfefferle to approve Resolution 2020-074.

Roll Call: Aye: Plumer, Pfefferle, Kiernan

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried

Resolution #2020-074

RESOLUTION FOR 2020 MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR MATERIAL BID AGREEMENT BETWEEN ALEXANDRIA, BETHLEHEM AND HOLLAND TOWNSHIPS, STAVOLA CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL AND EASTERN CONCRETE FOR ROAD MAINTENANCE MATERIALS AS PER THE 2020 AWARDED CONTRACT

WHEREAS, Alexandria Township received bids on February 11, 2020 for the purchase of road maintenance and repair materials; and

WHEREAS, the Townships of Bethlehem and Holland were included in that bid; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 bid has the option to extend the contract for an additional year; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Alexandria, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, to contract with Stavola Construction Materials and Eastern Concrete for the following items:

Item	Description	Qty	Unit	Unit Price	Bidder
6	Hot Mix Asphalt, Mix I-5 Surface Course (FOB)	600	Ton	\$65.00	Stavola Construction Materials
8	Hot Mix Asphalt, Mix I-2, Base Course (FOB)	300	Ton	\$60.00	Stavola Construction Materials
10	Densely Graded Aggregate (DGA) (FOB)	100	Ton	\$12.00	Eastern Concrete Materials
11b	Densely Graded Aggregate (DGA) (FDS)	800	Ton	\$16.95	Eastern Concrete Materials
13a	2 1/2 " Quarry Process/Road Blend (FDS)	100	Ton	\$23.25	Stavola Construction Materials
14	3/4 " Clean Crushed Stone (FOB)	100	Ton	\$16.45	Eastern Concrete Materials
15b	3/4" Clean Crushed Stone (FDS)	400	Ton	\$21.40	Eastern Concrete Materials
17b	Screenings (FDS)	400	Ton	\$14.70	Eastern Concrete Materials

- Resolution 2020-075 Approving the Creation and Administration of an Emergency Temporary Approval Process for Outdoor Dining and/or Business Operations Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic

Comm. Kiernan made a motion, seconded by Comm. Pfefferle to approve Resolution 2020-075.

Roll Call: Aye: Plumer, Pfefferle, Kiernan

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION 2020-075 OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ALEXANDRIA, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY APPROVING THE CREATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF AN EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROVAL PROCESS FOR OUTDOOR DINING AND/OR BUSINESS OPERATIONS DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey, through Executive Orders 103, 104 and 107, et seq. forced the closure of and otherwise restricted eating establishments, bars and other retail businesses deemed “non-essential” due to the COVID-19 Pandemic; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the Governor’s Executive Order No. 150 issued on June 3, 2020, beginning on June 15, 2020 at 6:00 a.m., the State will begin to relax these restrictions, allowing restaurants, bars, dining establishments and non-essential retail businesses to operate either indoors in a limited capacity, outdoors only or a combination of both; and

WHEREAS, restaurants, cafeterias, dining establishments, food courts, bars and all holders of a liquor license with retail consumption establishments (collectively “food or beverage establishments”) will be permitted to offer in-person service at outdoor areas only, provided they operate in accordance with the conditions set forth in Executive Order 150, which requires among other things, that they conform to applicable local, State and Federal regulations and that social distancing guidelines are followed in accordance with CDC and DOH safeguards, including ensuring that patrons remain appropriate distances while dining, providing smoke-free environments and other changes of operations; and

WHEREAS, the State Department of Health has issued Executive Directive No. 20-014 setting forth further compliance requirements for food or beverage establishments; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Alexandria does not currently have an outdoor ordinance permitting outdoor dining; however, it recognizes that restaurants and businesses are critical to the vibrancy of Alexandria Township and to ensure that our local restaurants and businesses can be successful, the Township Committee desires to provide opportunities to quickly and easily expand to outdoor dining space to promote compliance with the Governor’s orders; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has determined that this resolution is an appropriate emergency measure, that it shall take effect immediately and that it is imperative to

provide assistance to Alexandria Township's food and beverage establishments to help them continue their operations under the orders of the Governor and to maintain public safety while doing so.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Alexandria does hereby affirm its approval of outdoor dining in conformance with the provisions of Executive Order 150 and does hereby authorize the following in support of continuing and expanding such business operations within the Township:

1. The Township Committee authorizes the Zoning Officer to implement an abbreviated and emergency application process to allow food and beverage establishments to quickly, safely and efficiently utilize outdoor areas to conduct operations consistent with the State's requirements as set forth in the Governor's Executive Order 150 and Department of Health Executive Directive No.20-014.
2. The process for the abbreviated application is intended to result in an approval by the Zoning Officer of a temporary and emergency zoning permit to conduct the required operations outdoors, in parking areas, grassed areas and drives, so long as they are done in a manner consistent with the safety of the public and all patrons, the expressed conditions of Executive Order 150, State Department of Health Executive Directive No. 20-014 and any subsequent Executive Order which continues to place limitations on such businesses.
3. The Zoning Officer shall consult with the Township Engineer, Township Clerk/Administrator and Fire Official to ensure consistency with his determination of safety.
4. In anticipation of pending actions by the State Alcoholic Beverage Commission (ABC) to provide an abbreviated process for the expansion of licensed premises to both contiguous and non-contiguous areas in order to expand the consumption areas to these expanded areas, the Township Clerk is authorized, upon consultation with the State Police and ABC, to approve such expansion of premises applications through the State's system, should the State promulgate the appropriate rules.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to each of the following officers of the Township:

- 1) Zoning Officer
- 2) Hunterdon County Health Department
- 3) Fire Official
- 4) Fire Marshall
- 5) Township Engineer
- 6) NJ Alcoholic Beverage Commission

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

- 2020-076 2019 Tonnage Report

Comm. Pfefferle made a motion, seconded by Comm. Kiernan to approve Resolution 2020-076.

Roll Call: Aye: Plumer, Pfefferle, Kiernan

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried

**RESOLUTION 2020-076 OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ALEXANDRIA,
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY FOR THE
2019 TONNAGE GRANT APPLICATION**

WHEREAS, The Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act, P.L. 1987, c.102 has established a recycling fund from which tonnage grants may be made to municipalities in order to encourage local source separation and recycling programs; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent and spirit of the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act to use the tonnage grants to develop new municipal recycling programs and to continue and expand existing programs; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy is promulgating recycling regulations to implement the Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act; and

WHEREAS, the recycling regulations impose on municipalities certain requirements as a condition for applying for tonnage grants, including, but not limited to, making and keeping accurate verifiable records of materials collected and claimed by the municipality; and

WHEREAS, a resolution authorizing this municipality to apply for the 2019 Recycling Tonnage Grant will memorialize the commitment of this municipality to recycling and indicate the assent of the Township of Alexandria to the efforts undertaken by the municipality and the requirements contained in the Recycling Act and recycling regulations; and

WHEREAS, such a resolution should designate the individual authorized to ensure that the application is properly completed and timely filed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Alexandria that Alexandria Township hereby endorses the submission of a municipal Recycling Tonnage Grant Application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy and designates Michele Bobrowski, Alexandria Township Recycling Co-Coordinator, to ensure that the said application is properly filed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the monies received from the recycling tonnage grant is deposited in a dedicated recycling trust fund to be used solely for the purposes of recycling.

- 2020-077 Increasing the Size of the Township Committee Membership from a Three Person Committee to a Five Person Committee
Comm. Pfefferle made a motion, seconded by Comm. Kiernan to approve Resolution 2020-077.

Roll Call: Aye: Plumer, Pfefferle, Kiernan

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION 2020 – 077 OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ALEXANDRIA, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY INCREASING THE SIZE OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP FROM A THREE PERSON COMMITTEE TO A FIVE PERSON COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the Township of Alexandria, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey is governed by a Township Committee organized pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:63-3; and,

WHEREAS, the Township Committee shall consist of three or five members who shall hold office for a term of three years; and

WHEREAS, the legal voters of any Township may elect to increase or decrease the membership of the Township Committee of the Township either to three or five members

WHEREAS, the Township Committee seeks to have a question placed on the ballot to increase the current membership of the three-person Committee to a five-person Committee; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT REVOLVED, ON THIS 10th DAY OF June 10, 2020 BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ALEXANDRIA as follows:

1. The Township Clerk shall send this resolution and the following question to the Hunterdon County Clerk to be placed upon the ballot in November in the following form, which is the form of question required at N.J.S.A. 40A:63-3 (c):

“Shall the membership of the Township Committee of the Township of Alexandria be increased from three to five members?”

Explanation:

A yes vote would increase the membership of the Township Committee from three members to five members. A no vote would result in no change to the current three-member Township Committee.

2. This Resolution shall become effective immediately.

- 2020-078 Authorizing the Tax Collector to Issue Estimated Tax Bill In Accordance with P.L. 1994, c 72

Comm. Pfefferle made a motion, seconded by Comm. Keirnan to approve Resolution 2020-078.

Roll Call: Aye: Plumer, Pfefferle, Kiernan

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried

**RESOLUTION 2020 – 078 OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ALEXANDRIA, COUNTY OF
HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO ISSUE
ESTIMATED TAX BILL IN ACCORDANCE WITH P.L. 1994, c 72**

WHEREAS, pursuant to NJSA 54:4-66.2, which permits the Tax Collector to issue an estimated tax bill for the third installment of taxes in a calendar year when the tax rate has not yet been certified; and

WHEREAS, the County Tax Board of Taxation has not certified the tax rate at this time and the Tax Collector will be unable to mail the tax bills on a timely basis; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector, in consultation with the Chief Financial Officer, has computed an estimate tax levy in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:4-6.3; and

WHEREAS, it is desirous of Alexandria Township to issue estimated tax bills for the third installment of taxes payable to the Township in 2020 to ensure timely and consistent billings to the taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the Township estimates a total Tax Levy of 4,405,302, inclusive of the County, Local School, Regional School and Municipal Levies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Township of Alexandria as follows:

1. The Tax Collector be and is hereby authorized and directed to prepare and issue estimated tax bills for the third installment bill for 2020 taxes. The tax collector shall proceed and take such actions as are permitted and required by New Jersey statutes, specially N.J.S.A. 54:4-66.2 and 54:4-66.3.
2. The entire estimated tax levy for 2020 is hereby set at \$19,163,783.15 and the estimated tax rate is set at \$2.665.

3. In accordance with the law, the third installment of 2020 taxes shall not be subject to interest until the later of August 10 or the 25th calendar day after the date the estimated tax bills are mailed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that certified copies of the resolution be filed with the New Jersey Division of Local Government Services and with the Hunterdon County Board of Taxation.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Township Committee reviewed the attached Engineer's report from Township Engineer Decker.

BILL LIST:

Comm. Kiernan made a motion, seconded by Mayor Plumer to approve the June 10, 2020 bill list.

Roll Call: Aye: Plumer, Kiernan, Pfefferle

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried

PUBLIC COMMENT ON GENERAL MATTERS:

No Public Comment

Comm. Pfefferle asked DPW Foreman Heiser if there is a regular schedule to trim trees along the roads throughout the Township. DPW Foreman Heiser noted that there is a co-op that the Township uses to trim trees as needed. The DPW only has a budget of \$10,000 a year for trees and has trees trimmed if money is available. JCP & L also does consistent roadside trimming of trees throughout the Township during the year.

Township Clerk/Administrator Bobrowski is working on the grant for the park barn roof and will submit to the County once it is ready.

Township Clerk/Administrator Bobrowski advised that the Land Use Board discussed changes to the Special Events Ordinance at their May meeting. Township Clerk/Administrator Bobrowski will reach out to the Land Use Secretary to get an update on Ordinance discussion.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Reminder that the Primary Election will be held on July 7, 2020. Mail in ballots are being mailed out at this time by the Hunterdon County Clerks Office.

Comm. Kiernan made a motion, seconded by Comm. Pfefferle to go into Executive Session. (8:30 PM)

Roll Call: Aye: Plumer, Pfefferle, Kiernan

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried

Open Public Meetings Act RESOLUTION- Executive Session

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 2:4-12, Open Public Meetings Act, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Alexandria, County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of the hereinafter specified subject matters.
2. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

_____ A confidential or excluded matter under Federal or State Law or Court Rule.

_____ A matter involving information that may impair the Township's rights to receive funds from the United States Government.

_____ A matter constituting an unwarranted invasion of an individual's privacy rights.

X Collective Bargaining Agreement or negotiation of the Agreement.
DPW Contract

X Matters involving the purchase, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds which it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion were disclosed.

Lester D. Wilson
Brunner Pond

_____ Tactics and techniques to protect the safety and property of the public, including investigations of violations or potential violations of the law.

X Pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiations in which the public body is or may become a party.

Delaware River Tubing
Penn East Pipeline Co. LLC v. Kroese, et. al.
Joint Court

X Matters falling within the attorney-client privilege.
Beneduce Vineyards

X Personnel matters involving a specific employee or officer of the Township.
CFO Position

 Deliberations of the Township occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific penalty or suspension or loss of a license or permit.

3. It is anticipated at this time that the above matter will be made public: at the conclusion of the litigation and at such time as attorney client confidentiality is no longer needed to protect confidentiality and litigation strategy.
4. The executive session minutes will be placed on file in the township clerk's office, and will be available to the public as provided for by New Jersey law.
5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Comm. Pfefferle made a motion, seconded by Comm. Kiernan to return to Public Session **(9:42 PM)**.

Roll Call: Aye: Plumer, Pfefferle, Kiernan

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried

The following matters were discussed in Executive Session:

- Delaware River Tubing

Delaware River Tubing was found operating on Saturday and Sunday. The Governor's office was notified of the violation along with the Hunterdon County Prosecutor's office. The State Police went out and fined the business for operating against the Executive Order. The Township received two complaints from passerby's concerned of the business operating and safety precautions not being adhered too.

- Penn East

No update

- Beneduce Vineyards

Township Attorney Dragan received a brief that was filed by Beneduce's Attorney.

- CFO Position

Matter to Stay in Executive Session

- Union Contract

Matter to Stay in Executive Session

- Joint Court

Township will be moving forward with transferring the Court to Raritan Township. Township Atty. Dragan will work on a letter with the Attorney's of Holland Township and Frenchtown Boro to give notice of the dissolution of the Joint Court. Township

Attorney Dragan will review the draft agreement and resolution for the next Township meeting that she received.

- Land Acquisition LDW/Brunner's Pond

The Township Committee will not move forward at time on these properties until further information/costs are known.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Comm. Pfefferle made a motion, seconded by Comm. Kiernan to adjourn at 9:43 PM.

Roll Call: Aye: Plumer, Pfefferle, Kiernan

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Motion Carried

Meeting Adjourned at 9:43 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Michele Bobrowski, CMC/RMC

Township Clerk

I hereby certify that I have reviewed these Minutes of the Township Committee Meeting of June 10, 2020 and certify that said Minutes were approved by the Township Committee on the 8th day of July 2020.

Gabe Plumer, Mayor